

Gc
929.2
J131j
1936962

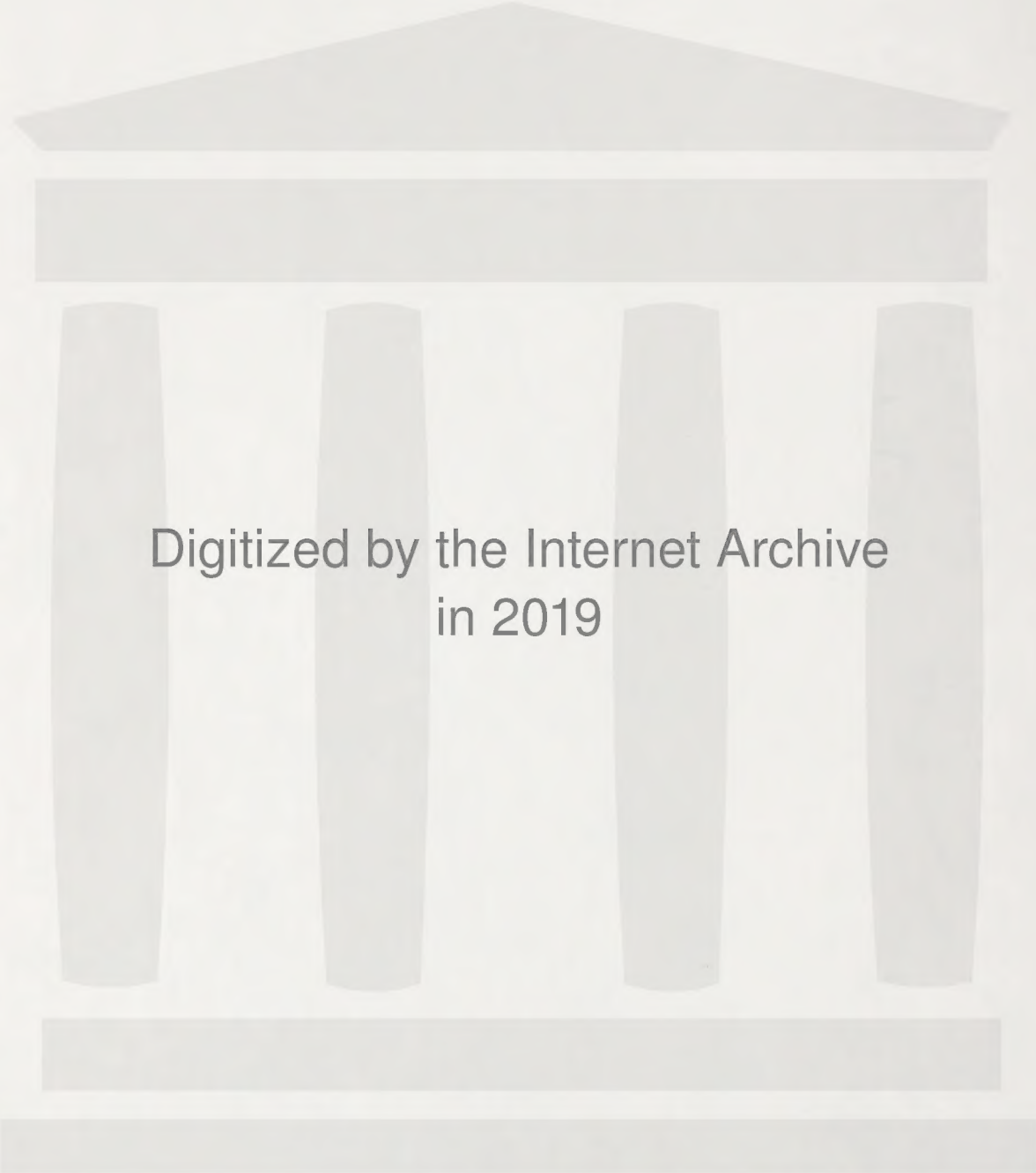
M. L.

REYNOLDS HISTORICAL
GENEALOGY COLLECTION

ALLEN COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY



3 1833 01340 4402



Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2019

<https://archive.org/details/biographyofbenja00jack>

THE
THE BIOGRAPHY OF BENJAMIN FRANKLIN JACKS

The story of his life from
Ohio to the Northwest

1859 to 1924

One of the last of the American
Pioneers who, with others of his
kind, contributed in making great-
ness in the American Nation possible.

To the Des Moines Public
Library

Frank Jacks
1962

This First Edition privately printed by mimeograph
and limited to fifty copies only.

Address all correspondence and inquiries to Frank
O. Jacks, 14848 N.E. 51, Redmond, Washington USA

FORWORD

In doing the research for this biography of my grandfather Benjamin Franklin Jacks, and also attempting to learn the identity of his paternal grandparents, I have covered the field very broadly for every possible source of information on Ben and his brothers and a more intimate picture of the constant changing times in which they lived.

Practically all papers, letters and records, that might have added more information on the personal lives of Benjamin and Fannie have been lost or destroyed and if it were not for the few things mentioned by my father and the opportunity to correspond with my Aunt and Uncle I certainly would not be able to provide much of history except a few facts and general movements of Benjamin and family.

1936962

922.2 Jacks, Frank O.

Jl32

The Biography of Benjamin Franklin Jacks - Story of his life from Ohio to the Northwest, 1833-1924

50441

First Edition - 50 copies, mimeogr.
Author: Redmond, Wash. 1902

The work of research is continuing and a considerable amount of new material is being added during the next few years. A new and better presentation will be made. While Benjamin's story has been written separately it is an expanded part of the Jacks Family history which will follow during the course of the next few years and at the present time is in the form of "work sheets" or field or research notes.

My father James S. Jacks did write a short Memoir and it will be printed at a near future date.

I have taken every precaution to insure that names and dates are correct and every effort has been made to make this biography of Benjamin S. Jacks a valuable source record of names and dates for this period of over 150 years of Jacks family history.

In order to provide additional record space for those who may have more information it was decided to print only one of each page and extra one papers are included for this purpose also.

1 May 1962

Frank O. Jacks
14813 N.E. 51
Redmond, Wash.

Rec'd Feb 13, 1997

THE LIFE OF BENJAMIN FRANKLIN

1336362

James Franklin	938.2 JF3
The Biography of Benjamin Franklin Story of his life from birth to the death West, 1773-1824	
West, 1773-1824 West, 1773-1824 West, 1773-1824	1336362

FORWORD

In doing the research for this biography of my grandfather, Benjamin Franklin Jacks, and also attempting to learn the identity of his paternal grandparents, I have covered the field very broadly for every possible source of information on Ben and his brothers and a more intimate picture of the constantly changing times in which they lived.

Practically all papers, letters and records, that might have added more information on the personal lives of Benjamin and Tildie have been lost or destroyed and if it were not for the few things mentioned by my father and the opportunity to correspond with my Aunts and Uncles I certainly would not be able to provide much of historical interest except a few dates and general movements of Benjamin and family.

To date this branch of the Jacks family has made no serious effort to compile a written history of any member or even a genealogical record of the branch.

However, now that the tradition of a family history or biographical record is begun, it is hoped that the practice will continue and, from time to time, be enlarged upon.

It is also hoped that each branch of the family will find able and interested "secretaries" or permanent historians to carry on a most worthy but time consuming labor or office.

The work of research is continuing and if an appreciable amount of new material is compiled during the next few years a new and better presentation will be made. While Benjamin's story has been written separately it is an expanded part of the Jacks Family History which will follow during the course of the next few years and at the present time is in the form of "work sheet" field or research notes.

My father James S. Jacks did write a short Memoir and this will be printed at a near future date.

I have taken every precaution to insure that names and dates are correct and every effort has been made to make this biography of Benjamin F. Jacks a valuable source record of names and dates for this period of over 150 years of Jacks family history.

In order to provide additional record space for those who may have more information it was decided to print only one side of each page and extra end papers are included for this purpose also.

1 May 1962

Frank O. Jacks
14843 N.E. 51
Redmond, Wash.

INDEX

Page	Event
	Forword
1	Benjamins father, Solomon
2 - 3	Alexandor MaComber
3	Solomons marriage
4	Alex. MaCombers death
5	1850 Census, Ivan & Solomon Jacks families
6	Ivan Jacks death- Levina Jacks death
7	Ben leaves home
8	Ben enlists in the Army
9	Ben returns to Illinois
10	Ben in Iowa, meets Mary Rhodes
11	Courtship and marriage
12	MaCombers in Iowa
13	Ben moves to Nebraska
14-15	Hardships on the Platte River
16	Return to Iowa
17	Death of Grandpa Walters
18	Grandpa Walter's whetstone
19	Henry Jacks
20	Children of Ben and Mary
21-22	Moving West to Oregon
23	Opportunities in Oregon
24-25	Isaac, Levina and Alethianna
26-27	Henry in Oregon and Idaho
28-29	Farming on the Big Potlatch
29	Homesteads - Nez Perce Reservation
30	Ben retires to Clarkston
31	The passing of Ben and Mary
32	Miscellanoy and general comments
33	Obituary - Spokane Chronicle
34	Obituary - Lewiston Morning Tribune

See appendix

Before starting with the details of Benjamins life let us step back a few years to when his father Solomon and brother Ivan Jacks first appear in Ohio. In doing this it will clarify many things and start the story off at the presently earliest known begining.

The earliest information of this branch of the Jacks family strarts with the appearance of Ivan and his brother Solomon Jacks in Gallia County, Ohio in about the year 1828. Ivan was a year or two older than Solomon who was born 15 January 1811. It isent known where the boys were born or who their parents were but they are thought to have come thru Kentucky and Tenn. from North Carolina. It isent known whether Ivan and Solomon had brothers and sisters but we must assume that they did. My father, James S. Jacks, mentioned several times that the parents of Ivan and Solomon died when the boys were quite young and that they were born in Pennsylvania (perhaps in the area of Jacks Mountain), However Ivan Jacks son Levi always said and maintained that his father was from "ole Caroline" and since this is earlier and more direct information would seem to take a preceedence over the Pennsylvania origin mentioned by my father.

Just what was going on in southe eastern Ohio in 1828 to attract Ivan and Solomon Jacks isent apparent at this time but the boys evidently were doing the same thing thousands of other American boys had done and were doing, striking outfor themselves at the earliest opportunity,

Shortly after their arrival in Gallia County the boys became acquainted with the Macomber family and just what the circumstances were isent known, the boys may have been employed by Alexander Macomber or they may have been employed by some other setteler and then may have been attracted to the Macomers because eight of the ten childern were girls, the oldest of which were slightly younger than the boys, Ivan and Solomon.

Evidently Ivan and Solomon became well acquainted with the two oldest girls, Alathia Ann and her sister Levina and the life drama for the four of them was now in its first act.

Since nothing further is known about the parents of Ivan and Solomon a brief mention of the parents of the two Macomber girls will serve to present the story of our maternal ancestors and provide some interesting detail of the times. The complete family history is available as written by several historians.

Alexander Macomber was descended from William Macomber, the original immigrant, and also from three of the Mayflower passengers; Francis Cooke, his son John Cooke and Richard Warren. John Cooke was the first Baptist minister in Dartmouth, Mass.

Alexander Macomber was born 13 February 1788 in Dartmouth Tp. Bristol County, Mass. He was married to Esther Rinderson November 1810 in Washington County, Pennsylvania. Esther was born November 1786 in Dartmouth Tp., Bristol County, Mass.

There is a Maria Richmond born Feb. 1805, evidently to Esther Rinderson before her marriage to Alexander, however this writer has not been able to verify anything concerning this event and it is offered as it was recieved until other information is available.

The family of Alex. Macomber is given in full here and also the first marriages of all the children which was furnished in part by a distant cousin and Jacks family researcher, Mrs. Virginia Savage of 1704 18th St., Huntington, West Virginia (1961) and also part was furnished by my Uncle Will who had recieved almost the same information from members of the Macomber family while on a visit to Des Moines, Iowa in 1945. The Children are as follows;

1. Alethia Ann	b. 21 Sept. 1811	m. Ivan Jacks	24 Sep 1829
2. Levina	b. 11 Novo. 1813	m. Solomon Jacks	29 Jul 1830
3. Electa	b. 5 Jan. 1816	m. Andrew Berthelof	24 Jun 1832
4. Linsey A.	b. 23 June 1818	m. Calphurinia Holcomb	6 Jul 37
5. Rebecca	b. 23 June 1818	m. Asa L. Martin	10 Feb 1842
6. John A.	b. 11 Oct. 1820	m. Emily Huntly	18 Mar 1841
7. Lauriana	b. 29 May 1822	m. David Johnston	10 Apr 1843
8. Sarah	b. 23 May 1824	m. Thomas Bishop	13 Aug 1843
9. Alden and Alexander,	b. 30 Nov 1826,	died in infancy.	
10. Lucy	b. 9 Nov 1828	m. Jordan Ewing	10 Aug 1843
11. Mary	b. 10 Aug 1831	m. Andrew Boddrill	21 Jan 1842

Because of the great historical significance to both branches of the family other information and papers concerning Alexander Macomber will be included in the Appendix.

Alethia Ann and Solomon had been going together but during the summer of 1826 they had a serious lovers quarrel and Alethia Ann began going with Ivan Jacks. Events began to move at a faster pace and Alethiann and Ivan were married the 24 of Sept. 1829. This apparently did not cause any trouble between the boys and none is mentioned but it seems to have slowed Solomon down a bit.

It appears that Solomon began going with Levina shortly after the quarrel with Alethiann but it was nearly a year later that Solomon and Levina decided to get married. They were married the 29 of July 1830 and the census records of 1830 show that Ivan

Jacks was living at one house with his wife (no children) and Solomon Jacks was living at another house with his wife (no children).

Alexander Macomber had given each of the girls the sum of \$30.00 when they were married which was a fair sum of money in those days.

From the census report of 1830 it is presumed that the boys each had their own home but it is not clear whether they were living on farms or in a village. The writer prefers the idea of the newly weds living on small farms because when the farm animals and equipment of Alexander Macomber was being sold Ivan Jacks bought a few head of stock.

At any rate Ivan Jacks seems to have been associated with farming until his death about 1852.

Solomon seems to have been a different sort and while he probably did considerable farming he was also interested in learning medicine, a very favored occupation in those days, and as he grew older he began preaching. According to my father and the historical sketch in the History of North Idaho of B.F. Jacks Solomon Jacks was a practicing physician for thirty-five years and a Methodist preacher for fifteen years. Since very little of this time applied after the move to Oregon it means that Solomon began his medical career early but probably not later than 1840.

It is not known just how Solomon conducted his business but he evidently did not get wealthy from either medicine or preaching.

In October 1831, a little over a year after Solomon and Levina were married, Alexander Macomber became ill and after a short time he died. The illness extended to perhaps several months but just what it was is not known although it could have been cholera as it seems to have been active in the 1830's and 40's and also Alexander says in his Will that he was "very sick and weak".

Anyway the illness was serious enough to cause Alex. to have his Will drawn up and it was signed and witnessed the 25th of September 1831. This was cutting it rather close because Alex. died in October 1831 and just a couple of months after his last child was born.

Alexander's Will, property and sales list are included in the Appendix because of its general interest. The contents of these listings apply only to the personal property required to operate the farm and they seem to be reasonably complete except for the usual private personal property such as books, valuables, clothing etc. The listings show about the average for a well-to-do and industrious family and of course there is no machinery listed as would be found on a farm 30 years later.

Alexander was only 45 years old at the time of his death and this must have been a very severe blow to the family but the oldest boy, Linsey A., was about 13 years old, John was about eleven, Electa, the next oldest girl was about 15 years old and with the mother, Esther, to manage things the usual lighter work couldnt have been too much of a problem and no doubt Ivan and Solomon assumed the necessary heavy work such as plowing, hauling etc.

Nothing of any particular interest happened for the next 20 years, the 1840 census only indicates the growing families of Ivan and Solomon but after 1850 things began to change rapidly. Since the census of 1850 is readily available and as none of the children were born after that date the two families are given here for general reading interest. (Note the Maccombers lived in Wilksville Tp. Gallia County but now Wilksville is in Venton County. The early records are in Gallia County).

Ivan Jacks	age 41	Solomon Jacks	age 39
Alethiamn	" 39	Levina	" 37
Litha	" 1	Emily	" 16 1
Mariah	" 2	George	" 15 2
Martha	" 3	Columbus	" 13 3
Levi	" 4	Henry C.	" 11 4
Alexander	" 5	Benjamin F.	" 11 5
Mary	" 6	Esther	" 8 6
Elizabeth	" 7	John	" 6 7
Maggie	" 8	Isaac	" 4 8
Nancy Jane	" 9	Levina (Pink)	" 1 9

In the census Solomons last child was called Pink, evidently she had not been named yet when the census was taken, I have inserted Levina, her proper name.

This period in the history of most American families of similar circumstance was perhaps the most completely harmonious and happy period of any to the present time, the pace was slow and livable, the expansion and prosperity following the wars with England and the Louisiana Purchase was in full swing and the majority of people doing the pioneering and western settlement were native born.

A mans prosperity was gauged by his industry and good judgement, taxes were in a fair and honest scale with the value of things and a man could still stand as a man without the permission of Law.

By 1850 there was a considerable colony of Maccombers and Jacks in the Wilksville area and to have 30 or more cousins and uncles

within a few miles of each other was not an unhappy situation but no doubt included all the usual inlaw likes and dislikes common to the human animal.

Grandma, Esther Macomber must have had many busy little visits from the nearly twenty neices and nephews coming and going. Not much is known concerning the schooling for these youngsters and this was mainly a wintertime affair but they all seemed to learn to read and write and cypher and the girls were becoming more interested in school.

Although research is continuing there is very little information of family happenings, who moved where or why this or that was done, no letters remain or reminiscing record by any of the older members of these families or their descendants at least none has been discovered to date.

It isnt clear what happened but sometime following 1850 Solomons wife, Levina died either in 1851 or possibly in 1852, (my uncle Will says 1848 but this isnt possible when the last child was born in 1849).

It seems more probable that Levina died sometime in 1851 because Ivan Jacks died shortly after and this was sometime in 1852. This rather fast moving sequence of events was climaxed by Solomon and Alethiann getting married on the 4th of March 1853 in Lawerance County, Ohio. The writer additional information concerning these happenings and if so it will be included in the appendix.

In the earlier part of the story concerning the marriages of Ivan and Solomon it was noted that Alethiann and Solomon had been sweethearts but a lovers quarrel had caused Alethiann to marry Ivan and now, years later, the old interest was revived. Of course this was actually a good thing as Ivans family was starting to marry off and so was Solomons.

There is no evidence to date that Ivan left a Will nor is there any information how the two families managed to live together but my father and uncle Will maintain that they all lived at the same place and I believe they did anyway there is no good reason to doubt it. Very little is said about the matter and evidently everyone settled in and accepted the new order of things.

We should not forget in the mention of bringing the two families together that the grandmother, Esther Macomber was probably still living at the old place and may have had some of the older children stay with her. Esther was still living thru the 1860 census at the old home place.

When Esther died or where she is buried is not presently known but it is assumed that she remained in Wilksville Tp. the rest of her life and was buried near Alexander and it is very possible this would be the same cometary where Levina

and Ivan Jacks are buried. As a speculation regarding Esther it is entirely possible that Solomon remained in Wilksville until after Esther died and then moved to Iowa. Solomon and quite a few of the Macomber girls were in Iowa during the Civil War or right after.

Up to now there has been very little said about young Ben and the only reason he is mentioned at this time is because he was having trouble with his new mother-in-law and it must have been rather serious. Although young Benjamin had known Alethiann all his life the new circumstances seemed to bring out new and different problems. Actually it appears that Alethiann did not like Benjamin and seldom missed an opportunity to get him into trouble. Apparently the way Alethiann accomplished her mission was to make sly remarks of accusing probability or as Benjamin put it she would "tell lies" on him. Of course we don't have Alethiann's story but knowing a few other things about her and the fact that this is a rather common feminine trait Benjamin was no doubt right in taking the course he did.

Benjamin solved the whole problem by simply going away from it so in 1855 he decided to run away from or leave home. He was 16 years old which was only about one year younger than his father was when he came into Ohio about twenty-five yrs before.

I do not believe that Benjamin took a stealthy departure I think he talked it over with his father, came to an agreeable decision that it was the better thing to do and left shortly thereafter. No doubt Benjamin took what he needed and it is possible that he left on horseback rather than on foot.

In those days the only direction to go was west, and west Benjamin went. He passed thru Indiana and on into Illinois.

In Illinois Benjamin became acquainted with Ezekial Walters a farmer and this acquaintance grew into a friendship that lasted until Eeks death years later. In fact young Benjamin called this his "second home" and it was here that he grew into manhood far from the scene of his early boyhood days. No doubt Ben was quite happy in his new found home but the changing political situation was soon to alter this and the right of a State to withdraw from the Union would soon become a vicious, raging conflict between the North and the South.

The writer has no present knowledge of the location of Ezekial Walters farm but there is a suggestion that it was near Cario Ill. because a piece of whetstone in the writers possession bears the inscription in my fathers (J.S. Jacks) handwriting, Ezekial Walters, Cario, Illinois 1860.

Following the various Acts of secession of 1860 the first shot of the war was fired the afternoon of 12 April 1861 and on the 11 of July 1861 Ben enlisted in Company A 50th Illinois 2nd Div., 2nd Brig., 16th Corp. of the Western Army, Gen. Dodge was Div. Commander.

It is very probable that Ben was in correspondence with the folks back in Wilkeville, Ohio although nothing has been said about this I think this a reasonable assumption because after all he was in disagreement with only one of his family not all of them.

The exact dates and places of enlistment for Bens brothers is not presently known but Bens twin brother, Henry, enlisted in Company G 2nd Ill. Cav.; George W. enlisted in the same outfit. Christopher C. enlisted in Company I 2nd Ill. and John enlisted in Company I 4th Iowa Cav. (John was killed in the battle of Wilsons Creek 1862 (Big Blue). Isaac the youngest of the boys joined Company I 10th Iowa as a substitute for another man and was paid \$500.00 for this service.

It is possible that Ben, Henry and Christopher could have met or have visited while in the service but I have never heard that they did. Of course it was possible to write letters but winter was the only certain season for delivery as spring and summer was practically impossible.

According to the often erroneous quotations in the History of North Idaho Benjamin F. Jacks participated in the Battles of Fort Henry, Fort Donelson, Pittsburg Landing (Shiloh) and the siege of Corinth (2nd Oct. 1862). Benjamin was also in the battles of Resaca, Dalton and many skirmishes, in other words Ben was with Sherman in his march to the sea.

The History of North Idaho also says that Ben was in charge of 200 men in the construction of the defences of or at Memphis, and that Ben was then in the Engineering Dept.

However the writer feels it should be pointed out that constructing defences at Memphis is an evident error in the make up of the Idaho History because Memphis was an unfortified place and the fighting that took place there was a terrific battle between Federal and Confederate river gunboats. This was on the 6 June 1862 and the battle lasted only an hour and a half but was one of the fiercest of its kind on record.

It would appear that Benjamin and his crew of 200 men did their construction of defences at Petersburg.

Father, J.S. Jacks, told me that the only time Ben was "hit" was when a "Minie" ball ricocheted thru the trees and struck him on the leg.

Benjamin was mustered out of the Army on 28 October 1864 at Rome, Georgia and returned directly to his "second home" in Illinois. After spending three months there in a sort of "Royal visit" with all his pre-war friends and the Walters family he turned towards the prairies of Iowa and the beginning of a new life.

Before leaving Illinois there is an incident that took place during the three months he was there after the war which shows something of the temper, provocation and disregard of the times. The following is a quote from one of my Uncle Willis letters;

"Election day tickets for each political party were issued separately and when father asked the election Clerk for a ticket he asked for the Republican party ticket. The Clerk saw that father was a Union soldier by the blue overcoat and he said, "you are a Union soldier I see, well there's been too many soldiers voting today already". The Clerk was intimating that Ben had probably already voted one or more times and naturely this would be an infuriating provocation, father threw back his overcoat to expose the pistol he was carrying and then he said to the Clerk "take that back you - of a - , and be quick about it and fortunately the Clerk made a full and ample apology.

I asked father what he would have done if the Clerk had refused to apologize and father said, "I would have shot him and then mounted my (borrowed) saddle mare and gone to the recruiting agency and reenlisted in the Army and there wasnt another horse at the polling place that could have caught me!"

Of course if Ben had shot the provocative Clerk and killed him Ben would have had to remain in the Army and on Government property perhaps the rest of his life to be safe from the civil authorities or until they forgot about it.

Early in the spring of 1865 Benjamin arrived in Iowa and most likely he headed for a certain farm about five miles south of Des Moines where a girl lived that Ben had been corresponding with while in the Army. Of course Ben may have gone to Des Moines first to change and clean up before making the actual visit but unfortunately we have nothing here but supposition.

Mary Matilda Rhodes was the daughter of James S. Rhodes who had arrived in Winterset 4 July 1855 and settled on Hoosier Prairie three miles south of Winterset. The family lived there until 1862-3 when James S. Rhodes, Marys father, sold out and bought a farm 5 miles south of Desmoines.

Aunt Eva Jane tells the story very well about how Ben and Tilda became acquainted. I have heard this story several times and repeat it here because of its natural interest.

Mary Matilda Rhodes was a very popular girl during the war and helped in many ways, she would not associate with any young man who could but would not enlist. Mary thought that to be a soldier was one of the greatest things a man could aspire to.

Mary (Tilda or Tildy) had a friend, a Miss Davis, who, like Mary, was very patriotic and active in such Civic affairs. Both girls were excellent horsewomen and together they would lead parades and participate in the many activities to aid and cheer the soldiers.

It is not known which year of the war it was or where Ben was located at the time but evidently the army was in winter quarters or they wouldn't have had much time on their hands. Anyway in winter quarters the men usually had a lot of time to pass in seeking their own amusement and they would think up devious ways of doing this.

The particular stunt we are interested in was where each man wrote the name and address of a girl he knew on a piece of paper and dropped it in a hat, when the names were all in the hat it would be well shaken and then each man would draw out a name. Each man who drew a name was required to write the girl a letter and so it happened that Ben drew Mary Rhodes' name and he proceeded to write her a letter.

Mary thought the letter she received from Ben was of such high minded good common sense that she kept the letter and cherished it for years until, along with other papers and letters, it became lost.

Apparently this letter initiated a more or less regular line of correspondence that was continued until the end of the war and this is evidently the reason why Ben headed for Iowa after his visit in Illinois.

While most of the Rhodes and Adams family history is available just a brief mention will be made concerning Mary Rhodes family.

James Starr Rhodes was born 9 Jan. 1812 in Champaign County, Ohio. James married Elisa Ann Francis Adams in Bloomington, Ohio on 27 Sept. 1837. Elisa was the daughter of Jesse Adams and Elizabeth Goodrum and was born in Warren County, Kentucky 2 June 1813. James died 14 March 1896 and Elisa died 28 Oct. 1905.

The children of James and Elisa Rhodes are as follows;

Pleasant Marion	b. 10 Nov. 1838 - d. 25 Oct. 1917
Permelia Jane	b. 4 Sept. 1840 - d. 8 Oct. 1899
Mary Matilda Rhodes	24 Apr 1842 - d. 20 Dec. 1928
Elizabeth Ann	b. 2 Nov. 1843 - d. 16 Aug. 1924
Margaret Ann	b. died when 10 days old
James Thompson	b. 16 Oct. 1847 - d. 6 Mar 1927
Lucinda (Belle)	b. 9 Jan. 1852 - d. 29 Feb. 1896
William Cyrus	b. 15 Sept 1853 - d. 3 Feb. 1931
Martha Francis	b. 2 July 1856 - d. ?

Ben must have had a good time around Winterset and seems to have treated the girls evenly although Mary Rhodes was definately the favored one.

I dont suppose that buggies were too plentiful at this time but saddle horses were and a little more convenient to get around with (still generally true and used to good purpose until after 1914), anyway Ben and Mary seem to have done a lot of horseback riding as was common among the young set.

My Uncle Will mentions a small incident that I repeat here because it indicates the presence of the Macomers in Iowa at this time, quote; "And here is a bit of an incident before fathers and mothers marriage and while father was at Winterset. Mother was visiting with her sister Jane who lived at Winterset and father wanted her to ride horseback with him in the 4th of July parade (this would be 1865) and he asked his Aunt Sally Macomber to loan him her side saddle and she wanted to know if he was going to take Beck Weeks and father told her that he was going to take Tilda Rhodes. Aunt Sally said that he could have the saddle for Tilda Rhodes to ride but that Beck Weeks couldnt set her big --- in it, End quote.

After 1863 Tildas folks were supposed to be on a farm about five miles South of Des Moines and accorrding to Uncle Will that is where the Rhodes were living when Ben went to see Mary and set the date for the wedding.

The wedding was held 18 Feb. 1866 at Des Moines, Iowa in the Christian Church (Campbelite) and it must have been a very happy occassion but the writer has no descriptive mention of the event.

Either before the wedding or right after Ben rented a farm near Winterset and purchased a team and outfit to farm with, this is according to my Uncle Will, however the first child was born 12 November 1866 in Polk County and probably means that Tilda was at home with her folks or this would rule out the statement that Ben and Tilda went to a farm near Winterset. Of course the first farm might have been in Polk County but Uncle Will is usually pretty close and accurate in his information and the writer feels that Ben probably did rent a farm near Winterset, perhaps near the Macomers, and that Mary just wanted to be with her folks when Almeda was born.

The exact date isent presently known but Bens' twin brother Henry was married at Des Moines in 1866 to Nellie Birdsell at the Methodist Church. Shortly after his marriage Henry moved to Dodge County, Nebraska and took up a homestead near North Bend and undoubtedly this is what influenced Ben to move to Nebraska a few years later. (see appendix)

I note that my Uncle Will mentions John A. Macomber lived near Winterset and also that John had moved there about 1852-3.

John raised a large family (Uncle Will visited there in 1945 and two of John's grandsons were living near the old John Macomber farm and Uncle Will spent some time with them). It is not clear how many of the Macombers came west to Iowa with John but there may have been several. The writer has been in correspondence with Armina Brownell of Winterset, her grandmother was Electa Macomber who married Andrew Borthelof in 1832 in Ohio and evidently she and her husband came west with John and family so it is possible there were Macombers in Iowa sometime after 1852 and before the end of the war. Whether the death of John's sister Levina in about 1851 and the death of Ivan Jacks a short time later had any bearing on this early move west is not known.

In her first letter to me Armina Brownell, among other things, mentioned that she called and talked to Mrs. Warren Bengel whose mother was a sister of Mary M. Rhodes. She said she was very fond of her Aunt "Tillie" and remembered vividly when they moved west. Mrs. Warren Bengel is now 90 years old and would have been about 16 years old when Ben and Tillie moved west in 1888.

While on the subject of moves from Ohio to Iowa, Uncle Will says that his father, Benjamin, told him that Solomon Jacks did not leave Ohio until about 1866-7. He also said that Solomon had a "home place" or farm near Winterset and that besides Alethiann some of the girls and younger children of both families were with Solomon at Winterset.

Tilda knew quite a few of the Ivan Jacks girls but most likely all the boys were off "on their own" by this time. For instance Christopher C. Jacks left Ohio when quite young, perhaps 17-18, went to near Carthage, Ill. (Navoo) for a while then into the north woods of Wisconsin and Minnesota in the early 1850's. (see Jacks family history)

No doubt letters were written once in a while as everybody seemed to know more or less where other members of the family were and what they were doing except for George W. Jacks, this writer has been unable to learn anything of his movements at this writing.

During the period 1866 to 1868 or until Ben and Tilda moved to Nebraska, an incident concerning Alethiann should be mentioned because this was near the last of such visiting family associations and proves that Solomon Jacks and his wife Alethiann and some younger members of the family were probably not too far from Ben's place at Winterset.

According to Uncle Will and the family talk he has heard about her, Alethiann seemed to be a complaining, gripy sort and one day she spoke to Tillie about not having any good clothes, apparently Solomon knew what was going on and some time later Solomon said to Tilda, "Tilda did Alethiann show you her dresses?", "no nor she went either but you just ask her to show you all the nice dresses she has, she just wants you to think she doesn't have any nice clothes". At this time, say 1867, Alethiann was about 56 years old and about 8 months younger than Solomon.

The above remarks seem to bear out Benjamins reason for leaving home some 12 years before and even to the last when Solomon was having an attack and asked her to fetch some opiac she managed to take so long at it that Solomon died. Of course this may have had only a slight bearing on his death but it is the same sort of attitude whenever she is mentioned.

Of course people are busy in any age just living and it was no different in the 1860s, the war was over and the great now industrial surge was just beginning as was the great movement west.

According to my father, J.S. Jacks, Ben and Tildie left in the spring of 1859 for Dodge County, Nebraska. Ben must have been corresponding with his twin brother Henry and evidently Henry was getting along and able to convince Ben that Nebraska was the place to be.

I have heard father tell of these early day happenings and I used to ask a lot of questions because I was interested in those early day happenings. Aunt Eva tells me some things and Uncle Will tells about other things and usually when comparing the same story as told by each of them they will be found substantially the same and I am quite confident the following events are factually and chronologically correct, of course there is much valuable detail missing but enough remains to give a good outline.

Father, James S. Jacks, says in his Memoirs that Ben homesteaded on 160 acres seven miles west of North Bend, Nebraska and near the Platte river. Father says that, "With a flood the first year, a tornado the second year and grasshoppers the next three years the folks became discouraged and returned to Des Moines, Iowa".

This is all borne out by Aunt Eva and Uncle Will and of all the happenings and hard luck in Nebraska there is one event that stands apart and deserves to be told since it also had great bearing on the course of the family.

I think that Uncle Will tells it very well and with sufficient detail to clearly indicate what happened.

Quote "In June of 1871 a cyclone struck and wiped out every vestage of their buildings. Father had built a strong stable of heavy posts, poles and prairie grass. He set two rows of posts around the area of the stable and had poles laid along each row of posts, the rows being about 2'-0", two feet, apart and Ben had filled in between the rows with prairie grass and he had covered the entire structure with a heavy covering of long "slew" grass and weighed it down with poles to prevent it blowing off. (It appears the house was built of lumber not sod, although if it had been sod it is very possible that little damage would have resulted and this story would not have been) However, going on with quoting Uncle Will's letter, On this day in June when the cyclone struck, father was away

some two miles from home breaking sod for another settler and had left a hired man at home to do some work for him. Mother was getting supper and she noted the heavy, black cloud in the west but went right on with her cooking until the house began to shake and the pictures on the walls began to flop, then she became frightened and grabbed up the two children, Almeda (Allie) and Jimmy, ran to the stable and attempted to put Jimmy in the grainery but the door was high and Jimmy kicked and screamed until she had to put him down, then she saw that the stable was on fire. The wind had picked up the house and dropped it behind the stable and the fire in the kitchen stove set the debris afire.

Seeing the stable afire Tildie had to get right out into the storm, the worst of the wind had passed but a heavy hail was falling (Father, J.S. Jacks, said the hail was as big as hens eggs) Tildie bent over the children to shield them from the hail, the hail tore her clothes to shreds and during this time a pole or post was thrown from the stable roof and struck her across the back of her neck almost killing her. When the hailing stopped it was followed by a great deluge of rain and at this time, the hired man who had been lying in a trench a little way from the house, got up and seeing the house gone and the stable afire, went down to see what he could do and came upon Tildie huddled over the two children. He helped her to her feet and succeeded in getting her and the children to a neighbors house.

After the storm had subsided enough that Ben could drive his team he went to the home site and not finding Tildie or the children he went to the neighbors and found them being cared for. (end quote)

This was indeed a severe blow, practically everything was lost except the teams and farming equipment, even all their money was lost because, as Aunt Eva says, Ben usually carried his wallet with him but this day he decided to leave it behind and as most of it was paper it was lost with the clothing and other personal belongings.

Now, according to father, J.S. Jacks, and what Uncle Will says, Ben traded the 160 acres on the river for 160 acres of "upland" (See statement of Register of Deeds, County Records Office Fremont, Nebraska in Appendix).

This move was thought to be soon after the storm but evidently not, Uncle Will says that Ben secured material and constructed another house and according to the Records Office Ben traded to Albert F. Smith 29 October 1873 and that on 21 June 1873 Ben bought a quarter Sect. from the same Smith.

Uncle Will says Ben and Tildie made preparations for winter but Tildies health was bad and being pregnant Ben decided it would be best if she returned to her folks near Des Moines.

Ben must have written Tildies folks without her knowledge anyway the both came by team and light waggon to take her and the two children back to Iowa for a while.

When Tildies folks arrived to take her back home to Iowa Tildie did not want to leave Ben alone on the Nebraska place and was quite rebellious about going back without Ben, however she was persuaded that under the circumstances this was best and she could have whatever medical care was available for her injuries resulting from the cyclone and the third child was due shortly. Apparently her condition was mainly brought about by the hail beating and being struck on the back of the neck by the plow during the storm otherwise Tildie would have remained with Ben.

Tildie returned to Iowa with her folks and Ben remained on the farm in Nebraska and no doubt he spent some of the time visiting with his brother Henry who was not too far away. All this was the reason why my Uncle Will was born in Iowa while the family were supposed to be living in Nebraska and this puzzled me for a long time until Uncle Will answered one of my letters explaining what happened. Will was born on the 13th of October 1871 at the Rhodes farm south of Des Moines, Iowa.

According to Uncle Will and the Records Office Ben traded the place near the river for another tract about two miles away and according to the Records Office the date was 29 Oct. 1873 so maybe Ben stayed on the river place during 1872 and thru the summer and fall of 1873. It is possible that Ben could have been on the Smith place in 1872 and that they just got around to making it official in 1873 but there is nothing indicating this, so the writer must accept 1873 as being the year Ben moved to the new place.

The spring of 1873 was the year that Bens father, Solomon, his stepmother, Alethiann, his youngest brother Isaac and his youngest sister Levina arrived at the Nebraska farm for a few days visit while on their journey to Oregon. Evidently they were traveling with their own wagon and teams as there was no railroads thru the area at this time.

Solomon was going west to grow wheat, what Isaac had in mind isent known but in the years to follow he proved to be a very shrewed and aggressive business man and of course Levina was destined to soon be married (she was already 24 years old).

This short visit with his father was to be the last time that Ben saw his father and with the possible exception of Alethiann it would be many years before he saw them again.

This writer while corresponding with a descendant of Alethiann said that when Solomon and Alethiann left Ohio none of the family remaining in Ohio ever heard from her again. This complaint was by her son Levi and he was about 18 years old at the time however he must have realized that his mother could not write and very likely could not read and that any word that got back to him from his mother would have to be written by someone else. (all signatures by Alethiann are by the usual X).

It isent known how long Tildie remained in Iowa after the birth of William C. in 1871 and nothing has been said about how she got back to Nebraska but since it would have probably been done in the spring Ben might have had his brother Henry look after things or perhaps he had a hired hand to take care of things while he went to Iowa for Tildie.

It is evident that Tildie had a rather serious time of it and if she was able to get any medical treatment in Iowa it seems to have been of small benifit and after her return to Nebraska remained in a more or less continuous state of nervous breakdown. This is obviously the reason that there were no more children until 1874 when Jesse N. was born.

According to father the last three years crops were taken by the grasshoppers so it must have been they years 1872 and 73 on the river place and 1874 on the Smith place on the "upland".

I remember father takking about the grasshoppers many times and he said that they, he and his sister Allie, would watch the hoppers settle on the fælds and he and Allie would get out with a piece of board and beat them into the ground, cussin at every swat.

It must have been a maddening sight to see the hoppers move into a young field of corn and ruin it within a few hours.

By now Ben and Tildie had been five years in Nebraska and it had been nothing but heartache and one years loss after another and Uncle Will says that in November of 1874 they packed up bag and baggage and returned to Iowa.

Back in Iowa again things were not too easy, especially during the middle of winter, but Ben got team work hauling coal and perhaps other hauling jobs. Tildie was still recieving some medical treatment but evidently was much improved and no doubt for the most part she just outgrew the disability.

Uncle Will says the family moved onto a farm near Des Moines and from there to a small acreage in East Des Moines and then. Uncle Will says, they moved onto a farm in Dallas County a few miles from the town of Redfield.

They remained on the farm near Redfield for about two years and in the spring they moved onto another farm some three miles away and during that summer they visited with the Walters family, Bens old friends from Illinois who had moved to Iowa.

It seems that they accidentally met at church and the old acquaintance was quickly renewed.

Uncle Will says, "We all enjoyed the family visits and there was much to tell of the events since Ben had last seen them". Apparently Ben had not been in contact with Zeke since his three months visit in 1864 and any knowledge of Zeke being in Iowa was a great surprise. Zeke may have been in Iowa for some little time but just when he came isent presently known.

The Walters family consisted of Ezekial (Grandpa, we called him), Grandma and Verge, the youngest son and only child remaining at home. Verge had married but his wife had died and since there were no children he continued to live with his parents.

After Ben and Tildie had returned from Nebraska another child had been born and this was Emma Francis born July 31, 1876 in Polk County which means that Tildie had left the farm at or near Redfield and gone to her folks again. Emma died 1879. However Tildie must have felt better when Eva Jane was born on the 12 Jan. 1880 as this was in Dallas County and presumably on the second farm near Redfield.

The year of 1880 was saddened by the untimely death of Bens old friend and "second father" Zeke Walters. This happened in August of that year and was caused by a snake bite. Grandma and Verge rented their little farm of twenty acres to Ben and they returned to her people in Illinois and Uncle Will says he never heard from them again. It is possible that Ben had occasion to write concerning the farm rental or its sale but there is no mention of this. It must have been hard for Ben to lose his old friend and to realize this phase of his life was now ended.

This writer has attempted to locate Walters descendants in Ill. but to date has not been successful.

Throughout the succeeding years a memento has descended to this writer being passed from father to son which is the only thing or relic extant pertaining to Zeke Walters and Ben as a young man. The item involved here is a fine grained, very hard, tawny colored whetstone, obviously hand made and said to be petrified hickory. This stone is a scant 2" wide about an inch and an eighth thick and the original was perhaps about 9" long but the piece remaining is about four and five-eighths long. This is a very fine finishing stone for small knives and hand tools and only one side of the stone was leveled and finished. Since this stone has now become a valued relic in the Jacks family and relates to Benjamins early life the full story should be told here,

This writer does not have the exact details but sometime before Zeke Walters died he gave the stone to Ben but because I have the list of presentation dates I must question either the 1882 date when Ben is supposed to have received it or he didn't get it before Zeke died and the widow presented it to Ben in 1882. However the Walters family had returned to Illinois before this date so the writer concludes that the date is an error and that Ben did receive the stone from Zeke perhaps about 1878-79.

Father mentioned the story several times about how the stone was broken and he said that the second piece was given to Jess after the accident. Jess has been recently questioned about

this but he has forgotten the incident entirely and has no knowledge of the second part of the stone and of course Uncle Will only heard mention of the stone accident and besides the stone was of no great importance at the time and this happened nearly 65 years ago. Father was on his homestead near Gifford, Idaho and Uncle Jess was helping with some of the work. I am not certain whether Jess had been using the stone or father but whoever it was they left it lying on the chopping block and forgot about it. Late that night Jess came home and needing some kindling to start a fire he went to the wood shed to cut it and in the darkness failed to notice the stone on the block and the first whack he cut the stone in two. The axe cut still shows very clearly.

In 1944 while I was living at 2824 West Myrtle St. Seattle, Wn. father sent this stone to me from Sennyside, Wash where he was living on a small place. The stone arrived in a metal box and without a word of its history except what was written on a paper which was pasted on the stone and this was a list of presentation dates compiled by father as a matter of record. There were three lines of recipients and dates as follows; Ezekial Walters, Cario, Illinois 1860; "To B. F. Jacks at Earlham, Iowa 1892; and on the third line was written "To Jas. S. Jacks, Gifford, Idaho 1895". To this I have added the fourth line "To Frank O. Jacks, Seattle, Wash. 1944.

It isent clear what the 1860 date refers to but it is possible that this was the date the stone was made and very probably Ben helped Zeke make it before the war.

It has been previously noted that Henry had moved to Nebraska and had homesteaded before Ben did and when Ben arrived he naturely would try to get as near to his brothers place as available land and good selection would permit just how far apart their places were isent known exactly. But since they are known to have been in the same general vicinity it seems rather strange that Henry isent mentioned in helping Ben to recover from the effects of the cyclone or even occasional visits or sometimes helping Ben with some special work but there isent a word but according to my Uncle Will when questioned about this in a recent letter, he said, "he had heard of Ben and Henry being together only one time; Quote, "Father told of being at Henry's place and they were unloading some sacks of grain or something from the waggon and Henry's wife, Nellie (Henry's first wife) appeared from the house and said "Oh, look at the pretty kitten on the wood pile", Uncle Henry looked and said, "yes, a pretty kitten, I'll pretty him". It was a stripped skunk, Henry managed to knock it on the head and he and Ben skinned it. Aunt Nellie remarked that the meat looked good enough to eat and said she would cook it if the men would eat it. The men told her to go ahead and she did and the men declared it was fine flavored meat.(end quote).

Henry remained in Nebraska until 1880 his first wife, Nellie, had died about 1878 and Henry remarried to Mary MacDonald and had three girls by this marriage (see family history).

What caused Henry to give up farming in Nebraska isent known unless it ws poor prices and crops, however that situation existed other places as well and the Northwest was no exception.

It is probable that from the occaccional letters from Isaac he formed the idea that money came rather easily in the west and since Isaac was doing so well certainly he could better than if he remained in Nebraska.

Henry made the move to Wasco, Oregon in 1880 (or near by) and the two girls, Martha and Elizabeth, married there to the Potter brothers. In 1886 Henry decided to move to Island, Idaho and it was there a few years later that Henry and Ben were again close neighbors. (see family history)

Returning now to Benjamins story, Uncle Will says that Ben and Tildie lived on the little twenty acre farm rented from the Walters family until the spring of 1882 then Ben moved onto another farm that Ben had secured a five year lease on. Uncle Will says they (the family) called this place the "lease", this farm was located near Earlham, Iowa. From this move this writer assumes that the twenty acre Walters place either got too small or the Walters family wanted it sold therefore Ben had to move.

Apparently the "lease" place didnt suit Ben, anyway something must have happened, because in the spring of 1883 they moved onto another farm called the "Beadle" farm and where Orrin was born 4 May 1883.

Things seemed to settle down a bit and the family remained on this farm for three years or until 1886 and since the next child Roy Henry was born in may of 1886 he was probably born on this place (Roy H. died when 16 mo. old).

In 1886 the family moved to a farm near Winterset and in the spring of 1887 they were on the move again, this time to a place 18 miles south of Winterset and not far from Peru, Iowa.

The cause of all this moving around has never been satisfactorly explained, of course people were moving and looking for better land in those days and they still move around but moving a farm family five or six times in a bout six years is an impossible situation. If three moves is as bad as a fire, as Uncle Will says, then Ben must have been in poor circumstances by the time they decided to move west.

Why Ben never bought a farm is difficult to understand from this point in time but no doubt the closer one comes to an understanding of the times and Bens particular problems the more reasonable

things would appear and it is very possible that my Uncles can shed some light on the causes of the apparent excessive moving and put the situation in a more reasonable light. The present understanding is that nothing at all was salvaged from the Nebraska venture except the teams, waggons and some equipment and household furnishings. We know that Tildies condition, as a result of the injury in the storm, certainly did have some bearing upon the household but this should not enter into or be considered a contributory cause for what Ben had to do.

Benjamin's father, Solomon Jacks, had died in Centerville (Athena) Oregon, 20 Sept. 1877 and whether Ben knew of this soon after is not known but according to Uncle Will it was not until 1882 that Ben received a letter informing him of his father's death and that he had been willed the sum of one dollar.

The writer has searched for this will but there is no record of any will by Solomon Jacks unless it was recorded out of the County.

Since Uncle Jess did spend some time around Athena working for his Uncle Isaac he came to know a few things about Solomon and Alethiann also Isaac but very little about Levina.

Uncle Jess, when questioned about the cause of Solomon's death, said that he heard Solomon had some sort of "attack" and asked Alethiann to fetch him the opiate but she took so long getting it that Solomon died.

Alethiann was no longer around when Jess was in Athena so she was most likely remarried and moved away anyway the latest recorded date is in 1881.

To conclude the Solomon Jacks story at this point it should be mentioned that about 1892 father, J.S. Jacks, had a marble slab carved and erected on Solomon's grave in the old Keys cemetery near Athena, Oregon and none of the Jacks family are known to have visited there until about 1893-4 when a son, Christopher C. Jacks visited there as the result of a railroad train breakdown near Weston, Oregon. Christopher had been west on a visit to see his brothers Benjamin and Henry in Idaho and probably was on his way to see Isaac and his sister Levina before returning to Ohio. He knew where Solomon was buried so when the railroad engine broke down and there would be several hours wait he just asked someone if they knew where Solomon Jacks was buried, they did and the visit was accomplished in good time. Evidently Solomon was a well known man for most anybody around the county to remember where he was buried 16 years later. From about the time of Christopher's visit to 1961 none of the Jacks are known to have visited there until the writer was told in 1960 that Solomon was buried someplace around Athena, Oregon and in 1961 the writer investigated and made a special trip to verify the site and to take pictures. It was Uncle Jess who remembered where Solomon was buried.

Bens youngest sister had married a rancher near Pendelton and had a boy named George, Isaac had married Elizabeth Post 26 Dec. 1874 and is thought to have had four or more children but they too are presently among the unknowns. More will be said about Isaac and Levina later on in the story.

Getting back to Ben's story again we find that the last move had put the family in south Madison County near Peru but if they moved there in the spring of 1887 they were destined to move again in 1888 and their last move in Iowa would be out of the State.

It appears that Ben and Tildie had made up their mind to go West during the winter of 1887-8 and before the last child was born. Mary Ora was born 8 Feb. 1888 and since she was the last we can now give a complete listing of the children and their first marriages, although the marriages did not take place until some years after the family left Iowa.

There were a total of nine children born but one died when about three years old and the other a boy, when 16 months old. Since the last child was born just before leaving for the west it seems appropriate to list the family here;

1. Almeda Avarilla B.12 Nov. 1866 M. Wm. F. Magart 25 Feb 1885
2. James Solomon b. 9 Oct. 1868 m. Louise L. Book 30 Dec 1903
3. William Cyrus b.13 Oct. 1871 m. Jennie M. Corum 12 Aug 1894
4. Jessie Nelson b.20 Apr. 1874 m. Maude A. Lough 18 Feb 1900
5. Emma Francis b.31 July 1876 (died 22 Feb. 1879)
6. Eva Jane b.12 Jan 1880 m. Edward Miller 26 Feb 1899
7. Orin Wiyett b. 4 May 1883 m. Beulah I. Sigman 7 Oct 1905
8. Roy Henry b. May 1886 (died when 16 mo. old)
9. Mary Ora b. 8 Feb 1888 m. Clyde Slocum 11 Oct 1906

Only first marriages given here, see family history.

Ben had nothing to lose on a move to the Oregon country and it isent a bit surprising to find Ben and Tildie making the decision to move west. Three had moved west in 1873 and Ben's twin brother had moved west in 1880 and no doubt there was a certain amount of beckoning correspondence and the situation is better described by a remark made by Uncle Will when he said "they had the West fever" and people everywhere in the east or middle west were afflicted by it even Tildies father and mother and family.

Just a few years earlier it would have been necessary to go by waggon train but in 1888 most of the main railroad lines were thru or connecting up.

Evidently all that the family did was to winter over on the place near Peru and supposedly this is the place where the sale of stock, machinery and other farming equipment was held. The only things held out would be clothing and personal items that could be carried in bags or baggage car.

The date of the sale is not known but was about the first of April 1888 and since Tildies folks were going too they must have had to go thru the same process of having a sale and perhaps had a farm to sell besides.

All the items to be shipped and the people (emigrants) leaving for the west assembled in Des Moines just before the 8th day of April which was the departure date.

Most probably stayed over at some friends house until everything was ready and of course there would be a great coming and going of friends and relatives who were staying behind. This is indicated in a recent letter (1961) from Mrs. Armina Bertholf Brownell of Winterset.

Arminia is a granddaughter of Electa Macomber who married a Bertholf and also in this same letter she mentions a Mrs Warren Benga whose mother was a sister of Tildies, she said she was very fond of her Aunt Tillie and remembers vividly when they moved west. Mrs Warren Benga was 89 in 1961 and very frail, she was about 17 years old when she gathered with other friends to say good bye to her Aunt Tillie.

On the 8th day of April 1888 The Benjamin Jacks family and the Rhodes family boarded the train at Des Moines with tickets to Pendelton, Oregon.

In the Jacks family there were Ben and Tildie and the seven children. In the Rhodes family were Mr. and Mrs. Rhodes, Marion P. Rhodes his wife and son Will, two unmarried daughters one married daughter her husband and baby, one married son his wife and baby, a niece her husband and baby making a total party of twenty-five persons. Father in his Memoirs mentions a Dr. Dickenson and tells the story a bit differently than Uncle Will whom I have just quoted.

Apparently the route taken on the trip west was thru Omaha, Cheyenne, Grainger (Granger) Boise and either Hinkle or Wallula then to Pendelton, Oregon, a trip of about 1800 miles and since they probably boarded the train on the morning of the 8th and arrived in Pendelton in the early morning hours of the 11th of April they were about 64 hours on the road so there must have been a number of stops along the way for an hour or more at a time.

Uncle Will says that they arrived at 2:AM and were obliged to stay at the depot, along with a hoard of other emigrants, until the business houses opened up. (All business houses were open on Sundays in those days).

Uncle Will says the men got out and secured a small house for the party and that Grandma Rhodes bought a cookstove which was soon set up and breakfast was prepared for the whole party and the rest of the day was spent in looking over the town.

Benjamin had talked with some of the business men while dealing for the little house and getting the stove and later on in the day one of the business men happened to meet Levina and told her of seeing her brother in town and where they were located. This was a very lucky break because Levina just happened to be in town that day on business and when she heard that the Jacks family was in town she went right over to see them. (Uncle Will says that Levina never came over to Centerville at any time to visit them).

On Monday morning most or all of the men went over to Centerville (Athena) on the early morning train and rented houses there and they all returned to Pendelton that night.

Uncle Will says that the boys didnt go to Athena with the men and were just loafing around Pendelton that Monday morning when a man came up to the camphouse and asked Will if any of the men or boys wanted to go to work as he needed two men to drive teams on railroad construction work at Wallulu. He said he would pay one dollar per day and board but that the men would have to supply their own bed roll.

Uncle Will thought he and Jim (my father) could fill the bill, although Jim wasent there just then, so Will told the man he and his brother would go with him.

The fellow said he would start at six the next morning (tuesday) and would pick us up where we were stopping.

The next morning all the other folks had gotten up early and taken the train to Athena leaving Will and Jim behind with a bed roll apiece to go out on the railroad job. Will says they sat on the door step of the house waiting for the contractor to show up. About 7:AM and he still hadent shown up and about this time a man living across the street came out to hoe in his garden and he asked why we had not gone with the others so we told him who we were waiting for and he said, "why that man isnt going today, I know he isnt because he hasent brought his mules in from the pasture yet, he has been going to go for the last two weeks.

Well, Jim and I went over and found him in bed, "he said that Flora was sick last night and I couldnt get ready and I dont know when I can go".

Jim had some money and we got a bite of breakfast and then hit the ties for Athena where we arrived about 1:PM and found the folks. (this was a little over a twenty mile hike and each of the boys carried a suitcase of extra clothes besides the bed-roll.)

Father (J.S.Jacks) went to Wallula and worked with the construction crew on the N.P. railroad branch that was building towards Walla Walla, until harvest time, Uncle Will says he worked on a ranch for a month and then he and his father (Ben) went to work on the railroad that was coming into Centerville (Athena) from Wallula, Jess worked on this railroad also and according to Uncle Will, when threshing time came all of them quit the railroad work and took jobs with a threshing outfit.

Bens brother, Isaac, had a ranch about 4 miles north of Athena but the only one of the boys who seems to have worked for him was Jess and apparently Jess spent some time with Isaac and this is one reason why Jess knew about some of the things concerning his grandfather and stepmother (Solomon and Aleth-iann)

Isaac was a very successful rancher and businessman and had extensive holdings in and around Centerville and also was very active in real estate in Tacoma, Wash.

Isaac built a hotel there and took part in the fight to keep Seattle from becoming the railroad terminus, when Seattle won out Isaac sold out his holdings in Tacoma.

It was during this first summer in Centerville that Isaac told his brother Ben how much money he had made since coming to Oregon (the writer has never been able to learn how much this was except to be told that it was a very large sum).

Although Uncle Will says that Levina never came to Centerville to visit them it is possible that she came when he wasnt there or it may be that the women made a trip on the train to Pendelton during that summer to visit her (although Levina didnt live in Pendelton) anyway it would be very strange indeed if Levina and the Ben Jacks family never met but the one time when they first arrived.

This writer is inclined to believe that during the next eight months that the Jacks family would be in Centerville surely Levina would have visited them a few times.

Aunt Eva Jane (who was about eight years old) said that Levina was a very beautiful woman and well dressed, she was married to a rancher and had one son named George who was about 14 years old. Levina was about 39 years old at this time. Levina lost her first husband (date unknown) and then married several times and nothing is known of Levina or her son George since that time.

From what Uncle Will and Aunt Eva have told me they were somewhat "bug eyed" about things in the new country and Athena presented a busy scene entirely new and different to what they were used to in Iowa. The girls had been enchanted with

their Aunt Levina and her fancy clothes and so had the boys but they also were being impressed with the ways and vastness of western life and Will particularly seemed attracted to cowboys and ranches.

Alethiann is not mentioned at all during this period and she may not have been in the area as late as 1888 but, of course if she was, it is most certain that she would have nothing to do with Ben's family and of course she probably never knew the Rhodes people.

This writer has been to Athena and the Records office in Pendleton in search of general information on Levina(s and Isaac's marriages, Solomons will Etc., the only records in evidence show Isaac's marriage to Elizabeth Post, nothing is shown regarding Solomons Will and there are several records of land deals. The records were not checked out to determine the number of transactions or when the last one was filed or recorded. (see appendix for partial list of Recorded properties)

Henry was supposed to have settled in Wasco, Oregon and farmed or ranched until leaving there in 1886 for the Potlatch, but from the Recorded property list he seems to have had some dealings around Centerville and Pendleton up to the time he left for Idaho.

In the early fall of 1888 all of the Rhodes people who had come west with Ben and Tildie decided to return to their old homes in Iowa and I don't believe that any of them ever came west again to visit or that Ben or Tildie ever saw them again. Tildie's father James S. Rhodes died 14 Mar 1896 and her mother, Eliza, died Oct 23, 1905 and according to Uncle Will, Tildie received the sum of \$800.00 in the settlement.

It is assumed that Ben waited until the Rhodes people had left for Iowa before leaving on an inspection trip to his brother Henry's place on the Big Potlatch. In a recent letter from Uncle Will in regards to this trip he said, "Father borrowed a team and light wagon from Uncle Isaac and with Jim (J.S. Jacks) myself (Will), Jess and a boy named Harry Kemp we left Centerville in the early morning and camped the first night near Waitsburg, the second night we camped at the old Maringo crossing on the Tucanon River between Dayton and Pomeroy, the third night we camped at the Alpowa Mission (now called Silcott) and there we cooked up a feed of cottontail rabbits we had shot on the drive down Alpowa Creek that day. Breaking camp the next morning we crossed the Snake River and just up the river above the ferry we saw old Chief Timothy at at his home tepas near the road.

We continued on up the road on the north side and came to Lewiston on the opposite side, we crossed the Clearwater River to the town of Lewiston and continued on thru town and up the Clearwater on the south side to the Hatiwai ferry some five or six miles above Lewiston.

We crossed the Hatiwai ferry to the north side of the Clearwater river again and that night we camped near the mouth of the Potlatch creek. The following day we reached Leland, Idaho and made some inquiry for the Henry Jacks place. We stopped in front of a farm house where we saw a man in the yard and father called to him; "Hello there, can you tell me where Henry Jacks lives?", the man came walking towards us with a big grin on his face and said; "don't you know where you live?", then he noticed the team and the four boys and he said; "where did you get that team and all those boys?". Then father (Ben) told him who we were and how we came to be there and the fellow had a good laugh at being so mistaken. (end quote) Evidently Ben and Henry looked very much alike and had the same general build and height.

Continuing again with Uncle Will's letter, (quote); "We soon found Uncle Henry's place and had a jolly good reception. We spent two weeks there in which time father (Ben) rented a farm from a Mr. John Black for the period of one year and that prepared us for our first home on the Big Potlatch Prairie. We then returned to Centerville by the way we had come. After arriving in Centerville we worked at nearby farms until along in November when we packed up and father, Mother and the small children boarded the train for Genesee where Uncle Henry met them and drove them to the farm father had rented. I (Will) remained behind and worked on a ranch with Harry Kemp. Harry's father and brother had a herd of cattle to be delivered in Leland and this we did, following about the same route we took when father went to visit Uncle Henry. (end quote)

Father (J. S. Jacks) had gone to work with Uncle Isaac in Tacoma in Isaac's new hotel. (see Memoirs, J.S. Jacks).

Since the farm Ben had rented from John Black was only for one year Ben had to find another place and during that year Ben bought 160 acres near the Southwick P.O., six miles east of Leland, this was in 1889.

This 160 acres was a homestead that was proved up and was deeded to Ben, but Ben had to borrow "ice money" (\$1100.00) to pay for it.

In regard to this new place Uncle Will says, "We built a rude house and barn on the land and did a lot of fencing and got some crop in the first spring (1890). This land had a heavy, tough sod top and it was a real job to get it so we could get any seedling to take hold, but we did some real work. Father had no money to buy horses so we found a horse raiser who had a lot of unbroken broncos and we took six of them and got along with the first years farming, then father did buy a team and

I worked for an old Dutchman and bought a nice big span and father had them to use for three years. We were not able to get in a very large part of the land in crop but father kept adding some each year (season) and was getting somewhat better fixed until the third year, 1893 (there was a "panic" this same year also).

Ben had a lovely heavy crop of wheat and the header pulled into the field on Saturday evening ready to start cutting on Monday, the rain started that night and that header stood there in the same spot until the next season. Father did not get one bushel of wheat out of that crop and the next year (1894) was almost as bad, rain, wet stacks, poor prices and high rates of interest were too much, he couldnt make it, the mortgage had the say, in those days they did not give you credit for any equity and of course the land was worth much more than the mortgage but the law did not make allowances for excess value so the farm was lost. When the Nez Perce Reservation was thrown open for settlement Jim and Jess went over and secured good homesteads and father moved over to live with Jess, making his home there until the spring of 1911.

It was while Ben was living on the 160 acres near Southwick that he had a visit from his brother Christopher C. Jacks who was two years older than Ben. Christopher made the trip from Muskegon, Mich, about the year 1891-2 just when Ben was in the midst of getting started with the new place. For Christopher this was a sort of exploration trip to see what the country was really like and to visit with his brothers Henry, Ben, Isaac and Levina, his youngest sister. They had been writing back and forth for some time (see letter from Christopher's son, Chester C. of Norwalk, Ohio) Appendix. At this point the writer must point out that Chester Jacks said his father made the trip west when he was about 10 years old and this would be about 1892-3, but while Christopher was visiting with Ben he told about the trouble his oldest son had had while Sheriff of Muskegon and the events that finally led to his death. Since the son, George, died in 1893 on 14 of Oct. it is evident that Christopher could not have made the visit until after the death of his son George in 1893, and this means that when Christopher visited Ben it was at Jess's homestead over on the reservation. Consequently the previous mention of Christopher visiting his fathers grave (Solomon) at Athena, while his train was broke down at Weston, would be altered in this respect.

Christopher finally decided against moving to the west and one reason was that the country was too rough (mountainous).

Referring again to the foreclosure on the mortgage on Bens place near Southwick this writer has asked Will about what happened to Ben, especially, since in talking to Aunt Eva, she said that Jess felt very bitter about Ben losing the place and that it wasent as all necessary and shouldnt have happened, thus intimating that other causes may have been present besides bad weather, poor prices and high interest rates.

Anyway when Uncle Will was approached on this subject he wrote the following; "I never knew correctly the straight of this incident in father's business deals on the Potlatch before the family moved to the Gifford home, but mother (Tildie) told me about it and I did have a short talk with father (Ben) about this as follows, "Father had a nice looking crop on the farm (1891-92) and a man came along looking for a farm to buy and he offered father a price, something less than father had asked, Father refused it and the man said that he would be back in a day or two and that was when I (Will) learned of the offer as I had been away teaching school and just came home over the week end. Mother wanted father to accept the offer as it was a cash deal and she told father he could take the amount which was over and above the mortgage on the farm (Ben would have had about five thousand dollars) and buy an 80 acre tract of school land at \$10.00 per acre and still have enough to do the necessary building, well the deal fell through and along with bad crops, bad luck seemed to prevail and the farm went to the mortgage company.

It appears that Jess did have some justification for being embittered over the turn of events, especially since he was the one doing most of the farm work. Ben was about 53 yrs old at this time and Jess was about 18 years old.

The Nez Perce Indian Reservation was opened for settlement 18 November 1895 and on looking at father's (J.S. Jacks) Memoirs covering this period I find the following; quote, "Herman and Thomas King, Wm. (Uncle) King, my brother Jess and I went across the Clearwater river and found homesteads just a little East of the present P.O. of Gifford, Idaho.

Our places all joined in nearly a square, my place being in the center. A little further on in father's Memoirs he says, "The first year after the Reservation opened (1896), brother Jess and I put in the crop on father's place near Southwick. The wheat looked fine when it headed, like it would make 50 bushel but the hot wind struck it and we threshed out 9½ bu. per acre and had \$10.00 after expences for feed and seed and threshing were paid. (end quote)

So, evidently Benjamin remained on his 160 acre place near Southwick until 1896, at least and then moved over and made his home with Jess. Just which year this was isent stated but it must have been soon after Jess and Jim had their homesteads lined out and buildings up.

Apparently Uncle Will had given up his idea of ranching, at least for a time, It seems he started to teach school in or near Kendrick in 1890 and for the next 16 or 18 years he taught school but it isent known which schools or whether he stayed in the same general area or not. But things must have changed and in 1908 Uncle Will took out a homestead on the Lower Doxman Creek (down the Snake River below Lewiston) and while living there Uncle Will says he and his brother Jim bought

a tract of land down on the Snake River and started to develop it for sale in small lots as it was located on the railroad and we thought we might make a few dollars. (nothing came of this venture).

Getting back to Benjamins's story again, things settled down a little when Ben and Tilda moved over to Jess's place, just at this time Jim was busy farming, Will was teaching school during the winters and Orin was about 13 years old and going to school yet.

Events were moving fast and commercialism had gathered a great deal of momentum in the 30 years or so since the Civil War, and the tempo would continue to increase.

Except for fathers Memoirs very little is known about the period just before and after 1900. Eva Jane had married Edward Miller Feb 26, 1899 at Beeman, Idaho and William C. (Uncle Will) had married Jennie Corum 12 Aug. 1894 and Jess married Maude Lough 18 Feb. 1900 at Beeman, Idaho.

James had leased his farm to his brother Jess in the late spring of 1898 and joined the Army, he was back home in Oct of 1898 but left again in Aug. of 1899 and was gone until about mid-June of 1901. While James was in the Army his sister Eva Jane had been widowed and when her brother Jim was back on the farm she came from California and kept house for him for a time.

A brief mention would be made at this time concerning Almeda but as certain information is not available at the moment it be given in an appropriate place later on.

Jess must have been quite busy farming his place and Jims too and no doubt Ben was still able to do some of the less strenuous work but he was now getting over sixty years old. There isent any mention of poor crops or too much rain etc. such as happened during the earlier critical years but then there probably were light crops or poor prices or other ungodly accidents of nature to contend with and are now mostly forgotten as the changing times and new generations push the old familiar scene into a distant corner.

These were apparently rather peaceful years for Ben and Tilda and some of the grandchildren were around fourteen years old (Almedas family) but their youngest child, Mary Ora, wouldnt be married until 1902.

Finally in 1903 on the 30th of Dec. James S. Jacks married Miss Louise Book of Lookout, Ida. and Orin and Mary Ora were the only ones unmarried although Orin wasent long and married Beulah Sigman 7 Oct 1905.

When Tildas mother died in 1905 she recieved the sum of \$800.00 in the settlement of the estate in Iowa. It isent known just when Tilda recieved the money but she had it in 1910.

In 1908 J. S. Jacks was elected County Assessor and a new social element was established in the Jacks family as he was the first

in the Solomon Jacks family to become elected to Public Office and the only other one known to be elected to Public Office was George Jacks, son of Christopher Jacks, who was elected Sherrieff of Muskeagon, Mich. (see family History)

Upon being elected County Assessor, Jim sold his farm and moved to Lewiston, the County Seat, and bought a small home not too far from the Courthouse.

Will took a homestead on the Lower Deadman, below Lewiston on the Snake river, and remained there until the fall of 1910. The writer in corresponding with Will concerning this period, replied in two different letters and parts of others but it appears that Tildie gave Will the \$800.00 she was saving, to invest in property for her and Ben. Apparently the understanding was that Ben and Tilda wanted to retire to a place in Clarkston and Will was asked see what he could do.

Will bought some acerage on Chestnut St. then in April of 1911 Will went to Jess's place near Gifford and brought Ben and Tilda and all their household goods down to the place in Clarkston, using Bens' team and waggon.

Ben and Tilda lived on the Chestnut St. acerage until 1922 when Ben was no longer able to do the small chores or take care of the place.

During this time Will was living on a place he bought in Lewiston and when Ben could no longer manage the place in Clarkston Will arranged to trade the Chestnut St. acerage for a house and two lots on 7th St. in Clarkston, giving a clear Warrenty deed to the house and one lot to Ben and Tilda and on the other lot, built a house for himself.

Jess remained on the farm and raised his family, the last of the childern being born in 1909, It isent presently known when Jess retired from the farm.

Orin had married and had two childern, the last being born in 1916. The details, in brief, of his activities are not presently known.

Jim, not being re-elected to the Assessors office in 1911, sold the little place on 5th Ave in Lewiston and went on a deal with Will on the Deadman but stayed only the summer, this was at or near Central Ferry, then he moved back to Lewiston and went into the Real Estate business for a while, then he became interested in developing a copper mine near Troy, Idaho. During this time and shortly after returning from Central Ferry Jim bought a fine place on 14th St. (up on the hill) and then in the fall of 1915 sold out everything and moved onto a farm at Agatha, Ida.

Many new things were happening and change was no longer a novelty, moving pictures had appeared and finally an airplane appeared (I think the first one I saw was about 1912 and flew from Portland to the old Fair grounds in Lewiston). Automobiles had come to stay and were evident in great variety from the "steering bar" iron-tired hack to electric cars. The "cabs" were still horse drawn but soon due to change.

Concrete paving had come to town by 1912 or earlier and the road to the Lewiston Orchards was paved about this time.

Along with the great improvements in weapons, propellants and methods of communications came the greatest war of all time, the First World War. It isent known how all this impressed Ben or Tilda but so far as members of the family being in the Army there were none except possibly from the family of W.F. Magart, Alameda's family.

Jim offered to volunteer on the basis of his Spanish War experience but he was turned down because of age.

During this time this writer recalls many visits to Ben and Tildas place in Clarkston and also remembers their visits to the place on 14th St in Lewiston. These were usually Sunday dinners or maybe Thanksgiving.

The last time this writer saw Benjamin was in 1915 and the last time I saw Tilda was the spring of 1927.

Returning now to when the Chestnut St. Acreage was traded for the house and two lotts in 1922 Uncle Will says; "that gave father and mother a home of their own, clear of any debt, and they were entitled to it for they had lived a bit of a worried life a lot of the time they were raising the family". Mother was happy with the way I had treated them and she told me that "now I can live in my own little home", and she did until father died.

Benjamin F. Jacks died 28 September 1924 and enjoyed almost perfect health until just a short time before his death. Tilda not being able to care for herself went to live with Jess who had come to live in Clarkston and Uncle Will says, Jess took good care of her until Tilda died on the 22 Dec. 1928 thus bringing to a close a long life of hardwork and pioneering hardship that helped to make this country the greatest of all Nations.

Uncle Will says that "after father died mother had to borrow money to pay doctor bills and funeral expences but that the property stood in her name until she died. Some of the heirs took charge of matters and I let them do it all and I never knew just how it was finally settled".

In one or two letters Uncle Will covers the last few years rather quickly, there was a lot of living in the more than twenty years from 1888 in Centerville to 1911 at Gifford when Ben finally retired from an active farm life to the quiet and restful atmosphere of Clarkston.

However, while realizing that the life story of Ben and Tilda is not complete in all the interesting detail of these last years of changing scene when horse were slowly, but yet, rather quickly being replaced by a new force, the internal combustion engine. Ben had more than lived out the span of time the horse had been used in farming in this country as oxen were the

prime movers until about the 1860's.

At this time it should be mentioned that much of this information has just recently become available and research is still continuing.

Much material has been supplied by my Aunts and Uncles and every once in a while I learn something more. Of course if father were still living I am certain he could enlarge the general picture greatly as he told me many things some of which are mentioned in his Memoirs but this writer feels, that under the circumstances of difficult research and having only a few hours per week to devote to organization and development that a fairly well connected and comprehensive family history has been the result.

It is hoped that this small contribution to the story of Ben and Tilda will be the beginning of a better and more complete history as new material is forthcoming, and also that in time, this small work will become the proud possession of the descendants of Ben and Tilda.

For the benefit of future researchers it should be mentioned here that there is considerable misinformation concerning Ben in the History of North Idaho but the book does contain a very good photograph of him which cost \$75.00 for the full page size.

I do not find anything particularly wrong with the write-up for James S. Jacks but the write-up on Benjamin was poorly done with many errors apparently made by the person making the interview. These mistakes tend to ruin the book as source material for any serious research of the pioneers for this period and if used it should be cross checked if possible.

The following corrections are to be applied to the article on Benjamin in the History of North Idaho, these corrections have been verified by Aunts and Uncles now living in Clarkston, Wn.

Corrections are as follows; The date of arrival of the Jacks family in Pendleton, Ore. should be April 11, 1888 not 1887. The name Augustus, as given for Benjamin's first brother, should be, Christopher, C.; and the next item is perhaps the worst kind of libelous error that could be committed where it says that, "B. F. Jacks was a strong Democrat", when Ben saw this and all the other errors he probably lost all interest in the write-up. Anyway Uncle Will, in a letter to me regarding these errors, said most emphatically that, "father was a rank, old Black Republican and would have highly resented anyone calling him a Democrat."

As a small boy I remember visiting grandfather and Tildie when they were living with Uncle Jess.

This would be about 1909 or 1910 and I was about 5 years old. Mother was along and I remember that my sister Thelma was there too and no doubt some of the others. This visit was in the late spring or early summer.

I also remember another visit that had something to do with some of Bens orchard work. Of the many visits after Ben and Tilda moved to Clarkston I think the most interesting one was when I found out Ben liked to talk about the Civil War.

There are other items concerning myself while on a visit to Bens place but will be told in my own story and need not be mentioned here but there is one last thing I would like to mention and that is the brief story of Bens old bay mare named Maude. (I remember seeing old Maude several times and had the idea that she was a grey but Uncle Will say she was a bay) When I saw old Maude she seemed to be getting around well enough but I guess she was getting a bit old when I last saw her about 1913-14.

I don't remember if Ben drove a hack or a buggy but he drove around Clarkston quite a lot until after they moved to 2th St. when Ben and the horse both were getting to old to get around anymore.

Sometimes Tilda wouldnt notice Ben slip out of the house and go to the barn and harness up old Maude and start off on some jaunt to nowhere and then when Ben was missed someone would have to find him and bring him back. The last incident I heard about was that Ben and Maude got away alright and some distance down the road old Maude just got tired and laid down in the road and went to sleep. I never heard what became of old Maude.

As the story of Ben and Tilda draws to a close this writer would like to add one or two comments relating to the differences of people and family living between then and now, that is, over a period of 150 years of Jacks family History.

Before 1900 there were few divorces and seldom was there marital abuse or misunderstanding until the advent of a series of sociological perversions such as co-education, adoption of the 19th admendment which has no validity in proper human society and the stupidity of Sangerism, as these precepts of ignorance progressed in time so did the divorce rate, broken homes and as the cycle rounded out the inevitable delinquencies appeared as witnessed by the present day.

There is a very obvious and striking difference in doing a genealogical research before 1900 and attempting to catalog a few children and a series of foolish divorces in the period following. With all our "misfortunate" inventions and progress in gadgetery and overbearing law this writer finds little possibility that people are as happy and content as in the period between 1790 and 1860.

It is fortunate that Ben and Tilda were spared all this or their story, perhaps, would never have been written.

Idaho Pioneer crosses Divide

Nez Perce man dies at Clarkston after short illness - 85 yrs. old.

Benjamin F. Jacks, early pioneer of the Nez Perce Idaho district and for the last several years a resident of Clarkston, Wash. died at his home September 28th.

Mr. Jacks was 85 years of age and was in almost perfect health until a short time before his death. He is survived by his widow and seven children and 26 grand children all of whom live in the Northwest.

Mr. Jacks served throughout the Civil War in Company A, 50th Illinois Infantry.

He was born in Gallia County, Ohio August 9, 1839 where he grew to manhood. In Feb. 1866, he was married to Mary M. Rhodes of Des Moines, Iowa. They lived in the vicinity of Des Moines until 1888, during which time, nine children were born to them, two of whom died in infancy.

Comes West in 1868

In April, 1868 they moved to Eastern Oregon and later in the same year moved to the Big Potlatch ridge near Lemond, Idaho, where they lived until the opening of the Nez Perce Reservation when they moved to Clifford, Idaho. In 1911 Mr. and Mrs. Jacks moved to Clarkston where they have resided ever since.

He was an enthusiastic fruit grower for a number of years and a loyal worker for the welfare of his community and a member of the Christian Church.

He is survived by his widow and seven children: Mrs. W.F. Magart of Orchard Ave., James S. Jacks, Spokane; William C. Jacks, Clarkston; Jesse N. Jacks, Clifford, Idaho; Mrs. Emil Geiger, Clarkston; Orrin W. Jacks, Lewiston and Mrs. C. W. Slocum, Troy, Idaho and 26 grand-children.

The above obituary appeared in the Spokane Daily Chronicle for Sept. 29, 1924

The newspaper clipping for this and the funeral notice were given to me years ago and have lain forgotten until rediscovered just recently (13 Feb. 1961). I think it proper and fitting that these notices be included in with Benjamin's story.

At the time this happened I was working for Paul Brown, a cattleman in the upper Snake river country, and did not receive notice until too late to attend the funeral. My mother sent the notice to me from Cottonwood after she had been notified and the word was relayed to me in the Snake river country by horseback. (F.O.J.)

FUNERAL OF MR. JACKS

34

Was conducted Sunday from Merchant Parlors.

Funeral services for B.F. Jacks were held from the Merchant Chapel yesterday morning at 11 o'clock, Rev. N.E. Beach of Genesee officiating.

Many sorrowing friends of Clarkston and the surrounding country were in attendance. The music was furnished by a mens quartet composed of Rev. Morton Wood, F.M. Hartly, W.E. Basket and J.E. Engle with Mrs. J. Gordon at the piano.

J.A. Lathrop, Commander of the local C.A.R. Post, and comrade Thomas Phillips, John Smith, George W. Duncan and W.H. Calvin were honorary pallbearers, the active pallbearers being, C. C. Swanbeck, Robert Kidwell, Ralph DeBeaumont, W.B. Smith, W.A. Wyatt and John Halsey.

Interment was made in the Clarkston cemetery.

Benjamin F. Jacks was born in Gallia County Ohio, August 9, 1839. He moved with his father to Illinois in 1849 where he grew to manhood. In 1861 he enlisted in Company A, 50th Illinois Inf. and served throughout the Civil War.

In February 1866 he was married to Miss Mary M. Rhodes of Des Moines, Iowa. They lived in the vicinity of Des Moines until 1888, during which time nine children were born to them, two of whom passed away in infancy.

In April of 1888 they moved to Eastern Oregon, and later that year moved to the Big Potlatch ridge near Leland, Idaho, where they lived until the opening of the Nez Perce Reservation, at which time they moved to Cifford.

In 1911 Mr. and Mrs. Jacks moved to Clarkston where they have since resided. He was an enthusiastic fruit grower for a number of years, a loyal and earnest worker for the welfare of his country and a faithful member of the Christian Church.

He is survived by his widow and seven children: Mrs. W.F. Magart of Spokane; James S. Jacks of Spokane; William C. Jacks of Clarkston; Jesso N. Jacks of Cifford; Mrs. Emil Geiger of Clarkston; Orrin W. Jacks of Lewiston and Mrs. C. W. Slocum of Troy. There are 26 grand children and nine great-grand children.

CARD OF THANKS

To our many friends and relatives who were so kind and thoughtful to us during the recent bereavement in the loss of our beloved husband and father, we wish to extend our heartfelt thanks and appreciation and also for the many beautiful floral offerings.

Mrs. M. M. Jacks and children.

The above is from the newspaper clipping as it appeared in the Lewiston Morning Tribune. The date was probably the 30th or 31st of Sept. 1924. (a number of errors are noted in the above)

APPENDIX

In reply to my inquiry to the County Records Office, Fremont, Nebraska concerning the Benjamin F. Jacks homestead the following was received:

" Benjamin F. Jacks obtained a United States patent dated Oct. 15, 1873. Patent was filed in register of Deeds office on March 30, 1883.

This was the Northeast Qtr Sec 32 Township 18, Range 5 and it was traded to Albert F. Smith on October 29, 1873.

On June 21, 1873 Albert F. Smith sold to Benjamin F. Jacks the North East Qtr Sec 20, Twp. 18 Range 5, this land is about two miles north of the first tract.

signed Yours Very Truly
 Kitty A. Roush
 Register of Deeds (1962)

Henry Jacks homesteaded not far from Benjamins place but no verification of his tract has been made but the following is mentioned concerning his holdings in Oregon although Wasco was his original settlement in Oregon:

The following is in reference to Henry Jacks transferring property his brother Isaac. Evidently this was when Henry was selling out and moving to Idaho.

US to Henry Jacks Certificate No. 656

SE Qtr of Sec 2, Twmsp N of R 34, E of Will. Mer. in Oregon
160 acres

Signed and sealed 9 Dec 1886

1936962

1995/04/10

APPENDIX

The following notes were made in the County Recorders office, Umatilla County, Oregon and are given here as a matter of general interest.

The Record books in reference were; Isaac Jacks, Bk F pg 301, Bk J pg 100, Bk P pg 95; Alethianna Jacks, Bk F pg 299; Henry Jacks, Bk P pg 216.

Brief descriptions follow for a few of the entries;

US to Aletena Jacks (Bk F pg 299)

Certificate N. 528 Patent
9th East qtr of R 34 E in the Dist/ in the List of lands, subject to sale at La Grande, Oregon. 118.34 Acres, Record Vol 2, Pg 341, filed for record April 12, 1881.

Aletena Jacks

To

Isaac O. Jacks (Bk F pg 301)

(this relates to the transfer of the above mentioned property to her step-son Isaac O. Jacks, dated April 12, 1881

Signed (her mark)

Thomas Cuninghame & Emily Cuninghame

To

Isaac O. Jacks

For the sum of \$1500.00, lots in Centerville
Lots 1 - 11 and 12 Blk 3 of Centerville

Signed and sealed 1 May 1883

Henry Jacks and wife Mary

To

Isaac O. Jacks

For \$400.00 (conveyance)

SE qtr of Sect 2 in Tnshp No 4 of R 34 E Will. Mer.
containing 160 acres

Signed and sealed 18 Oct 1884

ALEXANDER MACOMBER'S WILL

Gallia County: Be it remembered that at a court of common pleas continued and held at the court house in the town of Gallipolis in the County of Gallia before the Honorable Thomas Rodgers, John Holcomb and David Boggs Associate Judges of said court on the 20th day of April in the year of our Lord 1832 and in the 30th year of this State.

The last will and testament of Alexander Macomber deceased was presented for probate by Mathias Croy and ESTHER MACOMBER the executrix therein named and said Esther Macomber came before the Court and elects to take under the will.

And thereupon came Samuel Peden and Mary Peden the two subscribing witnesses thereto before the court and after being duly sworn declared under oath that they were present when the testator signed and acknowledged the same to be his last will and testament and that they may believe he was of sound mind, memory and understanding at the time of the signing and acknowledging the same that said will was made without any restraint and that they signed the same as witnesses thereto in the presence and at the request of the Testator, whereupon said will is proved, approved and allowed as the last will and testament of the said Alexander Macomber deceased and ordered to be recorded and the same is in the words and figures following to wit.

" In the name of God Amen, I Alexander Macomber of Wilksville Township, Gallia County, State of Ohio, being Very sick and weak in body but of sound mind, memory and understanding Blessed be God for the same do make this my last will and testament in manner and following to wit:

Principally and first of all I commend My Soul into the Hands of God who gave it and my body to the earth to be buried in a decent manner at the descretion of my friends and as to such worldly Estate wherewith it hath pleased God to bless me in this life, I give and depose of the same in the following manner to wit: It is my will and I do order that all my just debts be duly paid and satisfied as soon as can conveniently be after my decease and as touching the rest of my estate of what kind or nature whatever the same may be I dispose to wit: FIRST, I give and devise all my real and personal property of every kind whatever to my dear wife Esther for her to possess and use unmolested during her natural lifetime with the following exceptions. Whereas my daughters ALETHIANNA and LEVINA are married and have recieved each out of my estate to the amount of 30 dollars. Therefore I will that the rest of my daughters namely, Electa, Rebecca, Sarah E., Laurania, Lucy and Mary each also recieve out of my estate as they become of age 30 dollars in property.

Secondly, I will that after the decease of my beloved wife Esther that all my real Estate be equally divided among my sons namely Linsey and John Macomber.

Thirdly, I will that the remainder of my personal property if there should be any left, be equally divided among my within named childern at the decease of my dear wife. And lastly I nominate, constitute and appoint my trusty friend Mathias Groy my executor and my beloved wife Esther Macomber my executrix of this my will declaring this to be my last will and testament.

In witness whereoff I have herin set my hand and seal this 25th day of September A.D. 1831.

ALEX. MACOMBER

Signed, sealed, pronounced, and declared by the said Testator as his last will and testament in the presence of us who in the presence and at his request have subscribed as witnesses.

SAMUEL PEDEN

MARY PEDEN

ANN PEDEN

And thereupon Mathias Groy executor and Esther Macomber executrix in said will named came before the Court and were duly sworn and having executed and acknowledged their bond in the penal sum of 400 dollars with Samuel R. Holcomb and Samuel Peden their security is ordered that letters testamentary issue on application.

On motion ordered that John Hawk, Limri Willis and John Baccus after being duly sworn to value and appraise in Current money of the United States, the goods and Chattels which were of Alex. Macomber, late of this County, deceased and they are ordered to make return in the clerks office in three months according to law.

ALEXANDER MACOMBER'S ESTATE

Be it remembered that on the 19th day of July in the year of our Lord 1832 the appraisers of the goods and chattels belonging to the Estate of Alexander Macomber deceased filed in the clerks office of the Court of Common Pleas for said County of Gallia the Inventory and Appraisment of the goods and chattels belonging to said estate and the same is the words and figures following.

" An Inventory of the goods and Chattels of Alexander Macomber deceased late of Wilksville Township and County of Gallia after being duly sworn according to law taken by us John Hawk, John Baccus and Zimri Wills appraisers appointed by the Court of Common Pleas of said County.

1	Two year old steer partly white	4.50
1	Black yearling	4.50
1	White and Red yearling	3.50
1	Yoke of 2 year old backs	11.00
1	Yoke of 2 year olds one black and the other red	9.00

carried up 32.50

Brot up	32.50
1 Stag 3 years old	7.00
1 Yoke of oxen 4 years old	28.00
1 Red and white face heifer 2 years old	3.50
1 Black white face heifer 2 years old	4.50

carried over 75.50

Brot up	75.50
1 Barren heifer 3 years old	7.50
1 Cow black sides and white back	10.00
1 Red and white cow	8.00
1 Red cow	8.00
1 Cow with bell and strap	8.00
1 Brindle cow	8.00
1 White and red yearling heifer	2.00
1 Sorrel mare and colt	55.00
4 head of sheep	6.00
17 Geese	4.25
1 Shovel plough, clevis and singletree	1.50
1 Burshear plough	2.50
1 Shovel	1.00
1 Grub hoe	.50
1 Weeding hoe and foot adz	.75
1 Sythe and hangings	1.25
1 pitch fork	.37 $\frac{1}{2}$
1 horse collar and gears	3.00

1	Bee stand	2.00
1	Cradle	1.00
1	Bureau	7.00
1	Patent Clock	20.00
1	Broken kettle	.75
2	Old axes and wedge	1.50
1	Log chain	1.00
1	Shotgun	3.00
3	Crocks	.12 $\frac{1}{2}$
2	buckets and churn	.75
2	Baskets and half bushel	1.00

carried up

241.25

Brot up	241.25
1 Side saddle	10.00
5 Barrels	1.25
1 Pair of wool cards	.12 $\frac{1}{2}$
1 Bedstead bed and bedding	4.50
1 Bed	2.00
1 Bedstead and bed	1.00
1 Wooden bowl and half barrel	.75
1 Loom, warping bars, 23 spools, 3 shuttles 3 reeds and swift	12.00
1 Big wheel	.50
1 Wash tub	.25
1 Old saddle	.25
1 Hogshead and 2 barrels	2.00
27 Jointer planes	18.75
2 Hand saws	1.87 $\frac{1}{2}$
2 Tenon saws	1.62 $\frac{1}{2}$
4 files 3 scrapers 1 bent and broken rille	1.00
16 Chisels	3.00
1 Rasp 1 file 1 crooked knife	.50
12 gayes	.50
1 Box broken tools various kinds	.75
1 Bench clamp	.25
1 Hammer 1 wooden and 1 iron square	.25
1 Draw knife and auger	1.62 $\frac{1}{2}$
1 Work bench and screw	1.00
1 Hatchet 2 horse shoes 1 small piece of iron	.50
1 Barrel	.50
1 Fat tub	.37 $\frac{1}{2}$
2 Crocks	.50
1 Cart	12.50
1 Hone and 3 whetstones	1.00

321.87 $\frac{1}{2}$

A schedule of property appraised and set off for the support of the widow and children of Alexander Macomber late of Wilksville Township, Gallia County deceased by us, John Hawk, John Baccus and Zimira Wills appraisers appointed by the Court of Common Pleas of said County.

60#	Bacon	4.20
50#	Pickled pork	1.87 $\frac{1}{2}$
13 $\frac{1}{2}$	bushels of wheat	6.75
35	bushels of corn	8.75
1	Ton of hay	5.00
20	Bushels of rye	5.00
1	Sow, 3 sholtes and 10 pigs	7.50
3	Small hogs	2.50
		41.57 $\frac{1}{2}$

Given under our hands this 12th day of
May 1832 A.D.

John Hawk
John Baccus
Timiri Wills Appraisers

State of Ohio, Gallia County.

Personally came the within named appraisers before me the Subscriber a Justice of the Peace for Wilksville Township in said County and where duly sworn to value and appraise the goods and chattels of Alexander Macomber deceased and make a true inventory thereof according to the law as witness my hand
May 12, 1832.

Agrippa Wells J.P.

AND AT THE SAME TIME the executors of said estate filed in the Clerks office aforesaid the inventory of the personal property belonging to said estate taken by the widow at the appraised value and the same is in the words and figures following to wit:

" Account of personal property of Alexander Macomber deceased selected and kept at its appraised value by the widow of said Alex. Macomber deceased 29 June 1832.

1	Yoke 4 year old oxen		1	side saddle	10.00
1	cow black sides white back	10.00	.5	barrels	1.25
1	Red cow	8.00	1	pr wool cards	.12 $\frac{1}{2}$
1	Cow with bell and strap	8.00	1	bedstead bed & bedding	4.50
1	Brindle cow	8.00	1	bed	2.00
1	Mare and colt	55.00	1	bedstead and bed	1.00
17	geese	4.25	1	Wodden bowl & half barrel	.75
1	Shovel plough	1.50	1	Loom and appratas	12.00
1	Barshear plough	2.50	1	big wheel and wash tub	.75
1	shovel	1.00	1	old saddle	.25
1	grub hoe	.50	1	hogshead and 2 barrels	2.00
1	weeding hoe & foot adz	.75	2	handsaws	1.87 $\frac{1}{2}$
1	sythe & hangings	1.25	1	bbl lfat tub & 2 crocks	1.27 $\frac{1}{2}$
1	pitch fork	.37 $\frac{1}{2}$	1	cart	12.50
1	horse collar and gears	3.00	1	hone & 2 whetstones	1.00
1	bureau	7.00	1	lot of tools (various kinds)	3.25
1	Paten clock	20.00	1	kittle	.75
2	Axes & wedge	1.50	1	log chain	1.00
3	crocks	.12 $\frac{1}{2}$	2	buckets & churn	.75
2	buckets & half bushel	1.00			

219.87 $\frac{1}{2}$

Aggregate amount kept by the widow 29 June 1832

M. Croy Executor

Esther Macomber Executrix

BILL OF SALE

AND AT THE SAME TIME the executors aforesaid filed in the Clerks office aforesaid the bill of sale of goods and chattles belonging to said estate and the same is in the words and figures following towit:

Account of sales of personal property of Alexander MaComber deceased at a Vendor holden the 29th day of June 1822.

1 Shotgun sold to Sylvanus Holcomb	2.06 $\frac{1}{2}$.
4 sheep sold to James Blakely	4.06 $\frac{1}{4}$
1 Joiner & smoothing plane to William Huntly	2.00
1 Tenon saw & chisel sold to Sam Peden	1.50
1 Foreplane & Jack sold to Joseph Neven	1.12 $\frac{1}{2}$
2 Molding planes sold to Joseph Chitwood	.75
5 Small chisels sold to William Huntly	.87 $\frac{1}{2}$
1 Kish plane & chisel sold to Joseph Chitwood	.75
1 Moulding plane sold to Seth Thompson	1.12 $\frac{1}{2}$
3 Scrapers bench hook & level sold to Royal Alther	.87 $\frac{1}{2}$
1 Tenon saw set of rabet planes & square sold to Joseph Neven	1.75
2 Match planes and bed sold to William Huntly	1.59
1 Ague with bed plane & bench hook sold to Royal Alther	.56 $\frac{1}{4}$
4 planes 1 lot of Joiner tools sold to Joseph Chitwood	1.07
2 bead planes sold to Alfred Wilcox	.56 $\frac{1}{4}$
1 lot of joiner tools sold to Aron Lewis	1.50
1 Lot of joiner tools sold to William Huntly	.38
1 hatchet sold to Darius Niles	.25
2 rabet planes sold to Alfred Wilcox	.50
1 rabet plane and ogee sold to Joseph Chitwood	.82 $\frac{1}{2}$
1 Joiner work bench sold to Samuel Holcomb	2.50
1 hive of bees sold to Benj. Hawk	2.37 $\frac{1}{2}$
1 yoke 2 year old steers sold to Wm. Potter	16.82
1 yoke 2 year olds sold to Agustus Wallis	12.01
1 yearling steer sold to John Sprouse	3.75
1 Spotted heifer 2 yrs old sold to Hezekiah Carter	5.00
1 black heifer 2 years old to Hezekiah Carter	5.75
1 black yearling steer sold to James Blakely	4.80
1 red 3 year old stag sold to George Copin	8.50
1 yearling heifer sold to Ivan Jacks	1.87 $\frac{1}{2}$
1 spotted yearling steer sold to William Edminston	4.75
1 barren heifer sold to Ivan Jacks	10.00
1 cow and calf sold to Charles L. Buck	10.00

Aggragate amount of sale 112.80 $\frac{1}{2}$

M. Croy Executor

Esther MaComber Executrix

